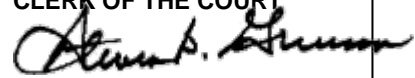


EXHIBIT A

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CASE NO: A-21-829905-C
Department 15**DISTRICT COURT**
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADAELIZABETH GARRIDO, individually and on
behalf of all those similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

FARMERS AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE
ASSOCIATION, FARMERS INSURANCE
EXCHANGE, DOES 1 through 10.
Defendants.Case No.:
Dept. No.:**COMPLAINT****REQUEST FOR BUSINESS
COURT****EXEMPT FROM
ARBITRATION****Jury Trial Demanded**

Plaintiff, Elizabeth Garrido, by and through undersigned counsel and on behalf of herself and all other similarly situated, hereby submits this Class Action Complaint against Defendants, Farmers Automobile Insurance Association, Farmers Insurance Exchange (hereinafter

collectively “Farmers”), and DOES 1 through 10.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This action seeks class-wide relief for Defendant Farmers’ failure to provide and charge a fair and appropriate insurance premium and to provide premium reduction to its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself and on behalf of all Nevada residents who held automobile insurance policies through Farmers as of March 1, 2020, and who have thereafter continued to be Farmers automobile policyholders.

3. Plaintiff and the class, along with everyone in this country, have faced substantial life changes since March 1, 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic, including reduced driving time and miles. The reduction of driving time and miles driven reduces the risk associated with insuring Plaintiff and the class members’ vehicles. Farmers has not taken the appropriate action to reduce Plaintiff and the class members’ premiums to accurately reflect the decreased risk.

II. PARTIES

4. Plaintiff, Elizabeth Garrido, is a resident of the State of Nevada, and a current automobile insurance policyholder of Farmers.

5. Defendant Farmers Automobile Insurance Association is an Illinois company, with offices located at 2505 Court Street, Pekin, Illinois, 61558.

6. Defendant, Farmers Insurance Exchange is a California company, with offices located at 6301 Owensmouth Avenue, Woodland Hills, California, 91367.

7. Collectively, Defendants are part of the Farmers family of companies, licensed in Nevada to sell automobile insurance policies within the State of Nevada.

8. Defendants DOE 1 through 10 are insurance companies that fall within the Farmers umbrella that provide policies of automobile insurance to Nevada residents.

9. That the true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise, of the Defendants herein designated as DOE are unknown to Plaintiff at this time, and we therefore sue said Defendants by fictitious names. Plaintiff alleges that each named Defendant

1 herein designated as DOE is negligently, willfully, contractually, or otherwise legally responsible
2 for the events and happenings herein referred to and proximately caused damages to Plaintiff as
3 herein alleged. Plaintiff will seek leave of Court to amend this Complaint to insert the true names
4 and capacities of such Defendants when same have been ascertained and will further seek leave
5 to join said Defendant in these proceedings. Plaintiff believes each Defendant named as DOE was
6 responsible for contributing to Plaintiff's damages as set forth herein.

7 8 **III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

9 10. That exercise of jurisdiction by this Court over each and every Defendant in this action is
10 appropriate because each and every Defendant has done, and continues to do business in the State
11 of Nevada, and contracted with Nevada residents, breached contracts with Nevada residents, and
12 violated Nevada laws.

13 11. Farmers is an insurance company licensed to do business in Nevada, and it sells
14 automobile insurance to Nevada residents and charges and collects premiums from those
15 residents.

16 12. Farmers sold a Nevada insurance policy to Plaintiff where she resides in Clark County,
17 Nevada.

18 13. That exercise of jurisdiction by this Court is further appropriate where Plaintiff resides in
19 the County of Clark, State of Nevada.

20 14. That this Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action. That exercise of the
21 jurisdiction by this Court over Farmers in this action is appropriate because Farmers has done,
22 and continues to do, business in the State of Nevada, and committed the wrongdoings alleged in
23 this Complaint in the State of Nevada. Additionally, this Court has jurisdiction over the claims
24 alleged herein as they arise out of contracts entered into with Nevada residents and Farmers'
25 actions violate Nevada law.

26 **IV. FACTUAL BACKGROUND APPLICABLE TO THE PROPOSED CLASS**

27 15. Farmers is a prolific underwriter of automobile insurance in Nevada.
28

1 16. On information and belief, and throughout the entirety of the COVID-19 pandemic,
2 Farmers has enjoyed a substantial share of the auto insurance market in Nevada. At all times
3 relevant to this case, Farmers has derived substantial revenues and profits from the sale of
4 automobile insurance to Nevada residents, including Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated.

5 V. GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

6 17. Coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”), is a novel, virus-borne, and potentially deadly
7 illness that impacts various systems within the body of those infected with the disease. Since its
8 emergence in late 2019, it has spread rapidly across the globe, reaching pandemic levels. On
9 January 20, 2020, it was declared a “public health emergency of international concerns” by the
10 World Health Organization. A week later, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services
11 declared the virus a public health emergency in the United States.

12 18. COVID-19 is highly contagious and appears capable of spreading exponentially through
13 transmission by persons who are symptomatic, asymptomatic, or pre-symptomatic.

14 19. As of the date of this complaint, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has
15 recorded over 28 million cases of COVID-19, and over 497,000 COVID-related deaths in the
16 U.S. alone.

17 20. The State of Nevada suffered over 4,700 COVID-related deaths as of the date of this
18 Complaint.¹

19 21. On March 12, 2020, Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak issued the Declaration of Emergency
20 for COVID-19.² In that declaration, the Governor “determined that the State of Nevada is
21 experiencing events that require a coordinated response for the health and safety of the public.”³
22 The declaration “will remain in effect until the Chief Medical Officer notifies the Governor that
23 the health event has been abated and the Governor issues an order terminating the emergency.”⁴
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26 ¹ <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/> (last visited February 22, 2021).

27 ² https://gov.nv.gov/News/Emergency_Orders/2020/2020-03-12_-_COVID-19_Declaration_of_Emergency/ (last
visited January 28, 2021).

28 ³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

22. On March 15, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued the COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Directive 001 closing all “public, community, and private K-12 schools in the state” until the Order is rescinded.⁵

23. On March 19, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Directive 002 closing all in-person gaming establishments.⁶

24. On March 20, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Directive 003 closing all “non-essential businesses” that promote social gatherings and prolonged interactions between individuals where risk of transmission is high.⁷ These businesses included recreation centers, clubhouses, nightclubs, movie theaters, massage parlors, adult entertainment establishments, brothels, live entertainment venues, gyms and studios, and aesthetic services (i.e. beauty shops, tanning salons, wax salons).⁸

25. On March 24, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Directive 007, which stated that “[t]he Nevada general public shall not gather in groups of ten or more in any indoor or outdoor area,” and directing local governments to limit the general public’s use of “recreational equipment, including, without limitation, playground equipment, basketball courts, volleyball courts, baseball fields, beaches, or football fields, in a manner that causes the congregation of ten or more persons.”⁹

26. On November 10, 2020, Governor Sisolak once again urged all Nevadans to restrict their activities outside the home to only those essential activities for two (2) weeks, dubbed “Stay at Home 2.0.” This request is a direct result of the rising numbers of COVID-19 infections within the State. The Governor warned that, if the infection numbers do not decrease, the State will likely be subject to another mandatory shut-down.

⁵https://gov.nv.gov/News/Emergency_Orders/2020/2020-03-15_-_COVID-19_Declaration_of_Emergency_Directive_001/ (last visited January 28, 2021).

⁶https://gov.nv.gov/News/Emergency_Orders/2020/2020-03-18_-_COVID-19_Declaration_of_Emergency_Directive_002/ (last visited January 28, 2021).

⁷[https://gov.nv.gov/News/Emergency_Orders/2020/2020-03-20_-_COVID-19_Declaration_of_Emergency_Directive_003_\(Attachments\)/](https://gov.nv.gov/News/Emergency_Orders/2020/2020-03-20_-_COVID-19_Declaration_of_Emergency_Directive_003_(Attachments)/) (last visited January 28, 2021).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹[https://gov.nv.gov/News/Emergency_Orders/2020/2020-03-24_-_COVID-19_Declaration_of_Emergency_Directive_007_\(Attachments\)/](https://gov.nv.gov/News/Emergency_Orders/2020/2020-03-24_-_COVID-19_Declaration_of_Emergency_Directive_007_(Attachments)/) (last visited January 28, 2021).

27. The practical effect of the COVID-19 crisis and the State of Nevada's response thereto has been to dramatically reduce the vehicle traffic on Nevada's roads. With non-essential businesses and schools closed as well as the limitation on the size of gatherings and people forced to remain at home due to the public health crisis, Nevada residents have been driving less frequently and shorter distances.

28. Vehicular traffic throughout Nevada has been greatly reduced during the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, in April 2020, the vehicular traffic at the Nevada-California border was sixty-six percent (66%) lower than it was in April 2019. Traffic volumes decreased between sixty percent (60%) to seventy percent (70%) compared to the same time periods in 2019. These reductions have been statewide.

29. With fewer people driving fewer miles, there are fewer automobile accidents and, therefore, fewer automobile insurance claims. The COVID-19 pandemic has thus led to a dramatic reduction in automobile insurance claims by Nevada residents. For example, there was a sixty percent (60%) reduction in automobile accidents in Southern Nevada in March 2020 from the prior year. This significant drop in driving, collisions, and automobile insurance claims during the pandemic will almost certainly continue for the foreseeable future, and for as long as the COVID-19 crisis continues.

30. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a dramatic reduction in the number of Nevada automobile insurance claims that have been submitted and will be submitted to Farmers.

31. Insurance companies have provided varying forms of premium refunds or credits during the COVID-19 pandemic ranging from nothing at all to the 35% CHUBB provided to its insureds. These refunds or credits are arbitrary and inconsistent in amount and duration. In fact, the only consistency among the refunds or credits is that they are arbitrary and capricious, as well as insufficient to provide fair, actual, and meaningful relief to the insureds as illustrated in the following table:

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Insurance Company	Quantity	Duration
Acuity	\$50 - \$100 one time refund (amount depends on the number of insured vehicles)	One time
Allstate	15% discount	2 months (April & May 2020)
Farmers Insurance	25% credit for 1 month and 15% for 1 month	2 months (April & May 2020)
Geico	15% credit	For an entire policy, but ONLY upon insurance renewal between April 8 – Oct 7, 2020.
Liberty Mutual	15% refund	2 months (April & May 2020)
Nationwide	\$50	One time
Progressive	20% credit	2 months (April & May 2020)
State Farm	25% credit	3 months (March – May 2020)
Travelers	15% credit	3 months (April - June 2020)
USAA	20% credit for 3 months then reduced to a 10% credit for 2 months	5 months (March – July 2020)

Though each insurance provider represented to its insureds that it understood the challenges individuals are facing during the COVID-19 pandemic and presented that fair refunds and credits were being issued, yet, none of them offered any meaningful relief that actually reflects the reduction in cars on the road and reduced driving during the pandemic.

A. Farmers' Wrongdoing

32. Personal insurance rates are set to cover future expected claims and expenses. Auto insurers, including the Defendant Farmers, develop such rates by extrapolating from recent historical experience with premium payments, claims submitted, claim settlement expenses, and non-claim selling and administrative expenses, and then projecting future claims and costs from that data.

33. Under Nevada law, Defendant Farmers may not charge an insurance premium that is excessive.

1 34. A premium is based, in part, upon what Defendant Farmers anticipates for future claims
2 payments both in severity and frequency, and premiums are calculated based upon the extent of
3 the insured's normal driving routine.

4 35. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, the frequency and severity of claims incurred by
5 Farmers were dramatically reduced and significantly less than what was anticipated when the
6 premium was charged.

7 36. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, Farmers insureds drove significantly less than what
8 was anticipated by Farmers when it developed the premium. As an example, Plaintiff's driving
9 time and mileage has been, and continues to be, greatly reduced because of the COVID-19
10 pandemic.

11 37. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, Farmers has and will incur significantly less
12 expenses in claim payments than what was anticipated when the premium was charged.

13 38. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, Farmers has charged and collected an excessive
14 premium to its insureds in the past and into the future.

15 39. Farmers is aware that it cannot charge an excessive premiums, and it has an affirmative
16 duty under law to return any excessive premiums that was collected.

17 40. Many auto insurers have provided what the industry refers as "premium relief" to their
18 policyholders, but the so-called "relief" is actually designed to allow insurers to retain excessive
19 premium in light of COVID-19 restrictions.

20 41. Farmers knows that the premiums it charged and collected following COVID-19
21 restrictions is grossly excessive.

22 42. Specifically, in statements posted on its website (and still shown on the website as of the
23 filing of this Complaint), Farmers provided a premium credit of twenty-five percent (25%) for
24 the month of April 2020 and fifteen percent (15%) for the month of May 2020.

25 43. This premium credit is inadequate such that even if the credit is applied to Plaintiff and
26 those similarly situated, the Plaintiff has paid and will continue to pay a grossly excessive
27 premium.

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1 44. This premium credit is designed to allow Farmers to retain a grossly excessive premium
2 and to continue charging a grossly excessive premium into the future.

3 45. Farmers has and will continue to receive a windfall as a result of, the COVID-19
4 pandemic.

5 46. Farmers, has continued to retain the excessive premium Plaintiff, and those similarly
6 situated, have paid and will pay into the future.

7 VI. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

8 47. Elizabeth Garrido brings this action on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,
9 as representatives of the following proposed class: All Nevada residents who were automobile
10 insurance policyholders of Defendant Farmers as of March 1, 2020, and who have thereafter
11 continued to be Farmers automobile insurance policyholders.

12 48. Numerosity: Upon information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that the total number of Class
13 members is dispersed across the State of Nevada. Consequently, joinder of the individual Class
14 members would be impracticable. While the exact number of Class members is unknown to
15 Plaintiff at this time, and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff believes
16 that there are thousands of members in the proposed Class such that the disposition of the
17 individual claims of the respective Class members through this Class action will benefit both the
18 parties and this Court, and will facilitate judicial economy.

19 49. Ascertainability: The Class is ascertainable because, on information and belief, each Class
20 member who holds a policy for automobile insurance through Farmers that was active as of March
21 1, 2020, is kept and stored in Farmers' electronic database and records.

22 50. Typicality: Plaintiff's claims are typical of the members of the Class. The claims of
23 Plaintiff and the members of the Class are based on the same legal theories and arise from the
24 same conduct. As such, the claims of the Plaintiff and the Class rise and fall together and are
25 typical of one another.

26 51. Common Questions of Fact and Law Predominate: Judicial determination of the common
27 legal and factual issues essential to this case would be far more efficient and economical as a class
28

1 action than in piecemeal individual determinations. There is no plain, speedy, or adequate remedy
2 other than by maintenance of this lawsuit as a class action because individual actions for premium
3 refunds are relatively small, making it economically infeasible for Class Members to pursue
4 remedies individually. The prosecution of separate actions by individual Members of the Class,
5 even if theoretically possible, would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with
6 respect to the individual Class Members against Defendants and would establish incompatible
7 standards of conduct for the Defendants. There are several questions of law or fact common to
8 all Class members including, but not limited to:

- 9 a. Whether each member of the proposed class was a policyholder under an existing
10 Farmers automobile insurance policy as of March 1, 2020, and has since continued
11 to be a Farmers policyholder;
- 12 b. Whether Farmers has charged each member an excessive premium following
13 COVID-19 restrictions;
- 14 c. Whether each member of the proposed class has been offered or provided with the
15 inadequate premium reduction described in paragraph 42 above;
- 16 d. Whether the fairness and/or reasonableness of Farmers' program of premium
17 reduction, as described above, is governed by the terms of its automobile policies
18 and Nevada law;
- 19 e. Whether Farmers' offer or provision of premium reduction, as described in
20 paragraph 42 above, constitutes an unfair or deceptive act or practice;
- 21 f. Whether Farmers implemented its offer of premium reduction, as described in
22 paragraph 42 above, with the expectation that others would rely upon any
23 misrepresentation, or any concealment or omission of material fact, subsumed
24 within such offer;
- 25 g. Whether Farmers' program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 42
26 above, is unfair and/or unreasonable;

- h. Whether Farmers' program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 42 above, constitutes a breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing contained in each of the company's Nevada automobile insurance policies;
- i. Whether Farmers' program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 42 above, results in a violation of Nevada law; and
- j. Whether Farmers owes greater COVID-related premium reduction to its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders.

52. Adequacy of Representation: Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class because her interests do not conflict with the interests of the other members of the Class. Plaintiff will fairly, adequately, and vigorously represent and protect the interests of the members of the Class and has no interests antagonistic to the members of the Class. Plaintiff has retained counsel who are competent and experienced in the prosecution of complex consumer class action litigation. Plaintiff's attorneys have the resources, expertise, and experience to prosecute this action, and do not have knowledge of any conflicts among the members of Plaintiff's Class, or any conflicts between the Class and Plaintiff's attorneys.

53. Superiority: The class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because: (a) the prosecution of a multitude of separate actions would be inefficient and wasteful of judicial resources; (b) the members of the Class may be scattered throughout Nevada and are not likely to be able to enforce their rights unless this action is maintained as a class action; (c) the issues raised can be more fairly and efficiently resolved in the context of a single action rather than through piecemeal litigation in the context of separate actions; (d) the resolution of litigation in a single forum will avoid the danger and resultant confusion of possible inconsistent determinations; (e) the prosecution of separate actions would create the risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications; (f) Defendants have acted and will act on grounds applicable to all Class members; (g) individual Class members' premium refund claims are relatively small and the expense and burden of individual litigation makes it impossible for Class members to individually redress the wrongs done to them; and (h) questions of law

1 and/or fact common to the Class, especially on issues of liability, predominate over any individual
2 question.

3 **VII. CAUSES OF ACTION**

4 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

5 **Declaratory Relief Pursuant to NRS 30.040**

6 54. Plaintiff, Elizabeth Garrido, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, repeats
7 and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 53 above.

8 55. Farmers has charged an excessive premium following COVID-19 restrictions.

9 56. Farmers' program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 42 above, continues
10 to unlawfully deprive its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders of the full and fair COVID-
11 related premium relief to which they are entitled.

12 57. Farmers' program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 42 above, is designed
13 to secure for Farmers, and has secured and will continue to secure for Farmers, an unfair windfall
14 at the expense of Farmers' Nevada automobile insurance policyholders.

15 58. Farmers' program of premium reduction, as described in paragraph 42 above, is unlawful.

16 59. An actual controversy of a justiciable nature exists regarding the contractual relationship
17 between the Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, and Farmers,
18 concerning the parties' rights and obligations with respect to Farmers' program of COVID-related
19 premium reduction.

20 60. The controversy is of sufficient immediacy to justify the entry of a declaratory judgment
21 regarding the contracts between the Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated, and Farmers.

22 61. An actual controversy of a justiciable nature exists regarding Farmers' statutory
23 responsibilities to provide automobile insurance and to not charge excessive premiums.

24 62. An award of declaratory relief by this Court will terminate some or all the existing
25 controversy between the parties.
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SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

Breach of Contract

63. Plaintiff, Elizabeth Garrido, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 62 above.

64. Plaintiff, and Class members, each entered an insurance contract for automobile insurance with Farmers.

65. The insurance contract is governed by Nevada law.

66. Farmers agreed to charge a premium that was reasonable in relation to the risk and was not excessive.

67. Farmers represents to its insureds that its insurance premiums are intended to provide the insureds with the desired coverage.

68. Farmers is aware of that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions materially changed the nature of the risk being insured because there was a material decrease in the claims frequency and severity.

69. In light of the change of the risk being insured, the pre-COVID-19 premium is excessive in relation to the COVID-19 risks.

70. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, paid an excessive premium when they paid the premium Farmers charged.

71. Farmers breached the insurance contract when it collected an excessive premium from Plaintiff and those similarly situated.

72. As a direct result of Farmers' breach of contract, Plaintiff Elizabeth Garrido, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, have been damaged as they paid an excessive premium and will continue to pay an excessive premium into the future.

73. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing and as a result of the breach by Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have sustained damages in an amount exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).

74. It has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of counsel to represent her, and those similarly situation, to bring this action, and Plaintiff is entitled to recovery of attorneys' fees and costs incurred herein.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

Breach of the Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing (Contract)

75. Plaintiff, Elizabeth Garrido, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 74 above.

76. Each existing automobile insurance policy Farmers has issued in the State of Nevada contains an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

77. Farmers owes a duty of good faith and fair dealing to Plaintiff and those similarly situated to act in a manner that is faithful to the purpose and spirit of the contract.

78. In order to fulfill the purpose and spirit of the contract, Farmers must charge a premium that is reasonable in relation to the risk insured against and is not excessive.

79. Farmers is aware that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions materially changed the nature of the risk being insured because there was a material decrease in the claims frequency and severity.

80. In light of the change of the risk being insured, the pre-COVID-19 premium is excessive in relation to the COVID-19 risks.

81. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, paid an excessive premium when they paid the premium Farmers charged.

82. Farmers has deliberately contravened the intention and spirit of the contract by collecting and retaining the excessive premium.

83. Farmers breached its duty of good faith and fair dealing when it collected and collected and retained excessive premiums from Plaintiff and those similarly situated.

84. As a direct result of Farmers' breach of contract, Plaintiff Elizabeth Garrido, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, have been damaged as they paid excessive premiums and will continue to do so into the future.

1 85. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing and as a result of the breach by
2 Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have sustained damages in an amount
3 exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).

4 86. It has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of counsel to represent her, and
5 those similarly situation, to bring this action, and Plaintiff is entitled to recovery of attorneys' fees
6 and costs incurred herein.

7 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

8 **Bad Faith**

9 87. Plaintiff, Elizabeth Garrido, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, repeats
10 and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 86 above.

11 88. Farmers owes a duty of good faith and fair dealing to Plaintiff, and all others similarly
12 situated insureds, and the duty is imposed by law.

13 89. As part of its duty of good faith and fair dealing, Farmers has a fiduciary-like relationship
14 to Plaintiff and all other similarly situated insureds.

15 90. Under the law, Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated insureds, have the right to expect
16 trust and confidence in the integrity and fidelity of Farmers.

17 91. Farmers contracted with Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, to provide protection,
18 peace of mind, and security as it relates to their automobile insurance.

19 92. As set forth herein, Farmers, as part of its fiduciary-like duties, cannot charge or retain an
20 excessive premium.

21 93. Farmers has breached its duty of good faith and fair dealing by charging and collecting
22 from Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, an excessive premium.

23 94. Farmers has acted unreasonably with knowledge and there is no unreasonable basis for its
24 conduct.

25 95. Farmers represented to its customers, including Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated,
26 that it was taking measures to reduce costs to Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, during the
27 COVID-19 crisis.

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1 96. Farmers misrepresented the nature of any relief it may offer to its customers, including
2 Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated.

3 97. Farmers provided a premium credit of twenty-five percent (25%) for the month of April
4 2020 and fifteen percent (15%) for the month of May. Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have
5 not received any other reduction from Farmers even though COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc
6 in Nevada 11 months after the emergency declaration and will continue for the foreseeable future.

7 98. This minimal credit for a limited period is insufficient where driving in the State has
8 declined between forty percent (40%) and seventy percent (70%) depending on the week.

9 99. In so doing, Farmers is taking advantage of its insureds, including Plaintiff and those
10 similarly situated, by continuing to collect and charge excessive premiums despite the greatly
11 reduced risk and enjoying substantial profits as a result.

12 100. Farmers has acted in bad faith in breaching the fiduciary responsibility it owes to
13 Plaintiff and all those similarly situated.

14 101. Farmers' actions were not keeping with the relationship of trust and confidence
15 with its insureds, including Plaintiff and all those similarly situated.

16 102. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing and as a result of the breach by
17 Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have sustained damages as they have paid and
18 will continue to pay into the future in an amount exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars
19 (\$15,000.00).

20 103. Defendants made intentional misrepresentations to their insureds and acted with
21 conscious disregard to the rights of their insureds thus entitling Plaintiff, and all those similarly
22 situated, to an award of punitive damages.

23 104. It has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of counsel to represent her,
24 and those similarly situation, to bring this action, and Plaintiff is entitled to recovery of attorneys'
25 fees and costs incurred herein.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Violation of Nevada's Deceptive Trade Practices Act (NRS §§ 598.0903 to 598.0999)

105. Plaintiff, Elizabeth Garrido, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, repeats, and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 104 above.

106. At all times relevant herein, Defendants violated the Nevada Deceptive Trade Practices Act, §§ 598.0903 to 598.0999, by representing to its automobile insurance policyholders that they will receive premium rates based upon risk factors, offering an inadequate premium reduction in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and failing to take into consideration the ongoing decrease in risk due to the decreased volume of vehicle traffic on all roads throughout Nevada.

107. Defendant made false or misleading statements of fact concerning the price and cost of its automobile insurance policies, as set forth above, in violation of NRS 598.0915(13) and otherwise knowingly made false representations in their communications with automobile insurance policyholders regarding the COVID-19 premium reductions described above.

108. In making its offer of premium reduction, Farmers represented to its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders (implicitly, if not explicitly) that such offer is fair and reasonable, when in fact it is neither.

109. In making its offer of premium reduction, Farmers concealed from its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders, or omitted to share with such policyholders, the inadequacy and unfairness of that offer. Farmers engaged in such conduct with the intent that others rely upon such concealment and/or omission.

110. In making its offer of premium reduction, Farmers expressly represented to its Nevada automobile insurance policyholders that its agents are working to support Farmers' insureds during the COVID-19 crisis. This was a misrepresentation of Farmers' intent as the premium credit was only provided once even though Governor Sisolak's March 12, 2020 emergency declaration has been ongoing for 11 months, and may continue for several months.

111. As a direct result of Farmers' conduct, Plaintiff Elizabeth Garrido, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, have been deprived of fair and adequate premiums as well as COVID-related premium reduction to which they are fairly and lawfully entitled.

112. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing and as a result of the breach by Defendants, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, have sustained damages in an amount exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).

113. Defendants made intentional misrepresentations to their insureds and acted with conscious disregard to the rights of their insureds thus entitling Plaintiff, and all those similarly situated, to an award of punitive damages.

114. It has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of counsel to represent her, and those similarly situation, to bring this action, and Plaintiff is entitled to recovery attorneys' fees and costs incurred herein.

VIII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, and those similarly situated, pray for relief and damages as follows, that the court:

- A. Determine this action is a proper class action and appoint Plaintiff's representatives of the Class under Rule 23 of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure;
- B. Declare the parties' rights, duties, status, or other legal relations;
- C. Enter the judicial declarations sought by this complaint;
- D. Award compensatory damages to Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated, for Farmers' wrongful conduct detailed above;
- E. Award punitive damages;
- F. Award to Plaintiff, and all others similarly situated, all attorneys' fees and costs; and

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1 G. Award such other and further relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

2 DATED this 23rd day of February, 2021.

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4 **EGLET ADAMS**

MATTHEW L. SHARP, LTD.

5 

/s/ Matthew L. Sharp

6 ROBERT T. EGLET, ESQ.

MATTHEW L. SHARP, ESQ.

7 Nevada Bar No. 3402

Nevada Bar No. 4746

8 CASSANDRA S.M. CUMMINGS, ESQ.

9 Nevada Bar No. 11944

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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